

**To:** Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov[Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov]  
**Cc:** Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov[Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov]  
**From:** Marcy, Ken  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 6:43:13 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Thank you Dana!! – when were you planning to be in the field next week? I probably need HQ approval before we proceed for the immediate work— I'll get back to you by COB today with what I know. Ken

**From:** Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov [mailto:Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 8:28 AM  
**To:** Marcy, Ken  
**Cc:** Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Ken,

Our planned field work for mine assessments in August and September includes:

- Silver King and Silver Monarch Mines, Warren Mining District, Idaho County
- Watershed assessment of mining impacts to the Clark Fork River and tributaries, Bonner County
- Alamo Prospect, Bonner County

Based on historical documents for the Warren sites, there may be adits and waste rock piles. For the Alamo Prospect, there is an adit and waste rock piles.

Our field procedures will include:

- Recon of the site by foot or driving along existing roads.
- Surface water samples from adits (downgradient of the opening), streams, rivers, and ponds. Use of a water quality meter.
- Sediment samples co-located with surface water where conditions permit.

- Soil samples from waste dumps or tailings piles using a steel spoon. Use of XRF to screen areas before sampling.
- GPS and photographs to identify sampling locations.

Please let me know if you need any other information.

Thanks,  
Dana

**From:** Marcy, Ken [<mailto:Marcy.Ken@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 5:35 PM  
**To:** Dana Swift  
**Cc:** Rob Hanson  
**Subject:** RE: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Hey Dana – don't change anything yet – we are responding to HQ asserting that our mine assessments under the CA are benign and will not cause releases – can you do me a big favor? HQ is asking for our list of upcoming assessments under cooperative agreement ID – can you send me the sites you are planning on visiting in Aug/ Sept, with a very quick description of the events (i.e. recon, collecting soils with hand trowel, sediments, surface water, etc.). Also, if you know anything about these sites in terms of adit discharge, tailings facilities, seeps – that would be helpful. What they want to know is if we're doing anything that could cause a release – I just need to allay their fears (no heavy equipment – no messing around in adits or with adit plugs, no tampering with tailing facilities). Hate to ask you for this quick turn around – I can refer to the plan, but I'm assuming you have a more concrete list of sites for Aug/ September at this point. If at all possible, can you get me this tomorrow? Thanks, Ken

**From:** [Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov) [mailto:[Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Dana.Swift@deq.idaho.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:15 AM  
**To:** Marcy, Ken  
**Cc:** [Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Rob.Hanson@deq.idaho.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Ken,

We were planning to visit the Warren Mining District next week and the Clark Fork in September. We'll wait to proceed until we hear from you.

We completed assessments for Gilmore and Buckskin last week and also completed the former gun range industrial site this week.

Thanks,  
Dana

Dana Swift, PMP, Mine Waste Project Coordinator

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

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**From:** Marcy, Ken [<mailto:Marcy.Ken@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 10:06 AM  
**To:** Palmieri, Anne Marie G (DEC); Dana Swift  
**Subject:** FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

Anne Marie, Dana – I'm trying to get further clarification on this, just wanted to make sure that you don't have crews in the field right now working on any mines – can you let me know? Also if you have plans for the immediate future to be out on any mines?

Ken Marcy | Regional Mining Coordinator, national priorities list coordinator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Region 10

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[marcy.ken@epa.gov](mailto:marcy.ken@epa.gov)

**From:** Werntz, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:02 AM  
**To:** Marcy, Ken; Tomten, Dave; Hood, Lynne; Weigel, Greg  
**Subject:** FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

fyi

James H. Werntz  
Director, EPA-Idaho Operations  
950 W. Bannock Street, Suite 900  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
(208) 378-5743

**From:** McLellan, Dennis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:58 AM  
**To:** R10-ET Mail Group  
**Subject:** FW: Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

FYI Please implement this directive immediately. If we have any concerns about specific sites please let me know immediately.

Dennis

**From:** Administrator/Ex. 6

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:51 AM

**To:** Blumenfeld, Jared; Curry, Ron; Enck, Judith; Garvin, Shawn; Hague, Mark; Hedman, Susan; McGrath, Shaun; McLerran, Dennis; McTeerToney, Heather; Spalding, Curt

**Cc:** Fritz, Matthew; Stanislaus, Mathy

**Subject:** Cessation of Mining Site Assessments

*Good morning everyone,*

*While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions.*

*If you have questions or wish to discuss a particular situation please reach out to Mathy.*

*Thank you.*